



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE **107<sup>th</sup>** CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2001

## *Senate*

### **HONORING SENATOR INOUE**

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, Senator Inouye has been a good friend and mentor to this new Senator, as has a Senator I call "Mr. Secretary," the former Secretary of the Navy, Senator Warner from Virginia, who also has been a good counselor and advisor to me. When these two Senators stood and entered the armed services six decades ago almost, they raised their arms and took an oath to defend our Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. They participated in a war that brought us in the 20th century to become the great Nation we are today.

Sixty years ago today, Pearl Harbor was bombed. Two hundred fourteen years ago today, the Constitution which they took an oath to defend was first ratified by any State in the United States of America. Two hundred fourteen years ago today, in a place called the Golden Fleece Tavern in Dover, DE, about 30 delegates who had been there for 3 days debating what steps to take decided that Delaware should be the first State to

ratify our Constitution and provide the foundation which has enabled our Nation to survive World War I and World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, the war against communism, to win the battle against the Great Depression.

We are fighting another war on terrorism around the world and here in this country and other places. That Constitution, which provides us with our three branches of Government--the legislative branch, of which we are one-half, the executive branch, and the judicial branch--the most enduring of any constitution in the world, which provides the foundation for the longest living democracy in the history of the world, was first ratified today 214 years ago.

Any country that can survive two world wars and a civil war and the Great Depression, vanquish the Communists, we can certainly handle the terrorists, and we can handle the issues that divide us here today. I am confident we will.